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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Following is a complete set of claims as amended with this Response. This complete set of claims includes amended claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 12 and new claims 16-25.

1. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ An implantable cardiac stimulation device having ~~a first terminal for connection to a first implantable electrode, a second terminal for connection to a second implantable electrode, and a third terminal, comprising:~~  
a first terminal for connection to a left ventricular pacing electrode, said left ventricular pacing electrode for placement in electrical contact with a left ventricle;  
a second terminal for connection to a right ventricular pacing electrode, said right ventricular pacing electrode for placement in a right ventricle;  
a pulse generator;  
a switch means for connecting any combination of said first and second terminals to said pulse generator to deliver electrical therapy to ~~the first implantable~~ said left ventricular pacing electrode, the second implantable said right ventricular pacing electrode, or both the first and second implantable said left and right ventricular pacing electrodes; and  
a control means for controlling operation of said pulse generator and said switch means.

2. (Currently Amended) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 1, wherein said switch means comprises:  
a first switch connecting said pulse generator to ~~the~~ said first terminal; and  
a second switch connecting said pulse generator to ~~the~~ said second terminal.

3. (Original) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 2, wherein said control means comprises:  
a programmable microcontroller; and

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computer readable program code means for causing said microcontroller to control said switch means to close only one of said first and second switches to provide left ventricular pacing to a heart, to close only the other of said first and second switches to provide right ventricular pacing, and to close both of said first and second switches to provide bi-ventricular pacing.

4. (Currently Amended) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 1, further comprising a third terminal and a fourth terminal, wherein said switch means further comprises;

means for connecting any combination of said third terminal and a said fourth terminal to ground to provide a return path for said electrical therapy from a third implantable left ventricular ring electrode, a fourth implantable right ventricular ring electrode, or both the third and fourth implantable said left and right ventricular ring electrodes.

5. (Currently Amended) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 4, wherein said switch means comprises:

- a first switch connecting said pulse generator to the said first terminal;
- a second switch connecting said pulse generator to the said second terminal;
- a third switch connecting said pulse generator to the said third terminal;
- and
- a fourth switch connecting said pulse generator to the said fourth terminal.

6. (Original) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 5, wherein said control means comprises:

- a programmable microcontroller; and
- computer readable program code means for causing said microcontroller to control said switch means to

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provide left ventricular pacing by closing only one of said first and second switches and closing at least one of said third and fourth switches,

provide right ventricular pacing by closing only the other of said first and second switches and closing at least one of said third and fourth switches, and

provide bi-ventricular pacing by closing both of said first and second switches and closing at least one of said third and fourth switches.

7. (Currently Amended) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 1, further comprising a third terminal and a fourth terminal, wherein said switch means further comprises:

means for connecting any combination of said third terminal and a said fourth terminal to ground to provide a return path for said electrical therapy from ~~a third implantable an additional pacing electrode~~, a case of said stimulation device, or both the ~~third implantable~~ said additional pacing electrode and said case.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a cardiac stimulation device having a first terminal for connection to a ~~first implantable~~ right ventricular pacing electrode, a second terminal for connection to a ~~second implantable~~ left ventricular pacing electrode, and a third terminal, the method comprising:

using a pulse generator to generate an electrical pulse for delivery to a heart;

electrically configuring switch means to deliver said electrical pulse to the first terminal when pulse delivery is desired to a right ventricle of the heart;

electrically configuring said switch means to deliver said electrical pulse to the second terminal when pulse delivery is desired to a left ventricle of the heart; and

electrically configuring said switch means to deliver said electrical pulse to both the first and second terminals when bi-ventricular pulse delivery is desired.

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9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said first configuring step comprises:  
closing a first switch to connect said pulse generator to the first terminal;  
and  
opening a second switch to isolate said pulse generator from the second terminal.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said second configuring step further comprises:  
opening said first switch to isolate said pulse generator from the first terminal; and  
closing the second switch to connect said pulse generator to the second terminal.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said third configuring step further comprises:  
closing the first switch to connect said pulse generator to the first terminal;  
and  
closing the second switch to connect said pulse generator to the second terminal.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:  
electrically configuring said switch means to connect any combination of said third terminal and a fourth terminal to ground to provide a return path for said electrical pulse from a ~~third implantable~~ right ventricular ring electrode, a ~~fourth implantable~~ left ventricular ring electrode, or both the ~~third and fourth implantable~~ right and left ventricular ring electrodes.

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13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said fourth configuring step comprises:  
closing a third switch to connect said pulse generator to the third terminal;  
and  
opening a fourth switch to isolate said pulse generator from the fourth terminal.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said fourth configuring step further comprises:  
opening a third switch to isolate said pulse generator from the third terminal; and  
closing a fourth switch to connect said pulse generator to the fourth terminal.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said fourth configuring step further comprises:  
closing a third switch to connect said pulse generator to the third terminal;  
and  
closing a fourth switch to connect said pulse generator to the fourth terminal.

16. (New) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 1, wherein said left ventricular pacing electrode is a tip electrode, and wherein said right ventricular pacing electrode is a tip electrode.

17. (New) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 2, wherein said control means comprises:  
a programmable microcontroller; and  
computer readable program code means for causing said microcontroller to control said switch means to close only one of said first and second switches to

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provide left ventricular pacing to a heart, to close only the other of said first and second switches to provide right ventricular pacing, and to close both of said first and second switches at differing times to provide bi-ventricular pacing with an interventricular delay.

18. (New) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 17, wherein said programmable microcontroller independently controls pacing pulse amplitude and pacing pulse width to the left and right ventricles.

19. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein said pulse generator independently delivers the electrical pulses to the right ventricle and the left ventricle.

20. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein said third configuring step further comprises:

closing the first switch at a time  $t_0$  to connect said pulse generator to the first terminal; and

closing the second switch at a time  $t_1$  to connect said pulse generator to the second terminal;

wherein  $t_0$  differs from  $t_1$  to provide bi-ventricular pacing with an interventricular delay.

21. (New) An implantable cardiac stimulation device, comprising:  
a pulse generator;  
a left ventricular pacing electrode switchably coupled to said pulse generator;  
a right ventricular pacing electrode switchably coupled to said pulse generator;  
a switching system to connect any combination of said left ventricular pacing electrode and said right ventricular pacing electrode to deliver pacing pulses to a left ventricle, a right ventricle, or both the left and right ventricles; and

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a controller to control operation of said pulse generator and said switching system.

22. (New) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 21, further comprising:  
 a first terminal for connection to said left ventricular pacing electrode; and  
 a second terminal for connection to said right ventricular pacing electrode;  
 wherein said switching system comprises:  
 a first switch to connect said pulse generator to said first terminal; and  
 a second switch to connect said pulse generator to said second terminal.

23. (New) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 21, wherein said controller causes said switching system to close only one of said first and second switches to provide left ventricular pacing to a heart, to close only the other of said first and second switches to provide right ventricular pacing, and to close both of said first and second switches to provide bi-ventricular pacing.

24. (New) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 21, wherein said controller causes said switching system to close only one of said first and second switches to provide left ventricular pacing to a heart, to close only the other of said first and second switches to provide right ventricular pacing, and to close both of said first and second switches at differing times to provide bi-ventricular pacing with an interventricular delay.

25. (New) The cardiac stimulation device of claim 21, wherein said pacing pulses have a pulse amplitude and pulse width, and wherein said controller independently controls said pulse amplitude and said pulse width to the left and right ventricles.

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